

Tangipahoa Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Tangipahoa	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	22.7%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	28.9%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	8.6%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$5,909	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	94.7%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	5.5%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	3.2	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	81.3%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	78.0%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	10.1%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	17.6%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	17.9	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	509.0	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	293.3	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	1*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	278.0	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	193.2	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	56.2	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	62.1	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	52.2	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	32.5	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	19.9	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	2.6	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 9	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	26.9%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI>30 (adults 20+)	25.2%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	72.8%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	82.4%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	59.6%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EMS/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

One of the Florida Parishes, Tangipahoa Parish was established on March 6, 1869. Its name is derived from the Tangipahoa Indians, who lived in that section when the French first occupied Louisiana. The root of the word Tangipahoa is the Indian word for “ear of corn” or “cornstalk”. Tangipahoa is the center of the strawberry industry in the South. Hundreds of carloads of the luscious fruit are shipped out annually. The topography of this parish, 51 miles long and 18 miles wide, is composed of flat lands to the south and rolling hills in the north.



Tangipahoa parish, located less than one hour from New Orleans, offers a 1000-ft. Swamp walk, an alligator farm and 900-acre animal safari, antiques, collectibles, arts and crafts, museums and historic districts. The annual Strawberry, Oyster and Dairy festivals highlight the area’s agriculture, while Old Farmer’s Day, Oktoberfest, Italian and Black Heritage festivals celebrate the local culture, making Tangipahoa known as the “Festival Capital of Louisiana.” Camp Moore Confederate museum keeps history alive with artifacts and documents’ relating to Louisiana Civil War history, although the original camp was completely destroyed before the Civil War was over. Hundreds of graves in Camp Moore Cemetery reflect the memories of the Confederate soldiers who lost their lives there.

Parish Seat³Amite

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

- Hammond
- Ponchatoula

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	100,588
2003 (estimate)	103,591
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	69.8%
African-American	28.4%
Some other race.....	1.9%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	1.5%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	7.2%
5-14	15.5%
15-17	5.0%
18-19	4.0%
20-24	8.7%
25-64	49.0%
65 & over	10.6%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	47ft.
Land area in square miles	790
Water area in square miles	32.9

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	67°
January	59°
July	92°
Annual average rainfall	65 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Tangipahoa Parish

Civilian.....	47,900
Employed	44,315
Unemployed.....	3,585
Unemployment.....	7.5%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Louisiana State University and A&M College
- Southern University and A&M College
- Southeastern Louisiana University

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information
<<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary
<http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.